FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

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Iran

Policy on U.S., Israel — The United States is "begging" Iran to hold a dialogue and seeks to use the issue of U.S. hostages in Lebanon as a "pretext" for making up for its past mistakes, Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani maintained in a Friday sermon reported by Tehran radio. As for rumors that Iran has purchased arms from Israel, he asserted that Iran obtains the spare parts it needs from from international brokers and it will never trample on its principles by purchasing arms from Israel. This denial followed a Copenhagen press report, cited by AFP, that a Danish freighter shipped arms from Israel to Iran in October. Meanwhile, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir told IDF radio that he "cannot say anything" about reports that Israel assisted the United States in establishing contacts with Iran.

Relations With Saudis — In his Friday sermon Hashemi-Rafsanjani denied Saudi official accusations that he was responsible for encouraging Iranian students to protest outside the Saudi and Kuwaiti embassies in Tehran 4 November, IRNA noted. A Saudi official cited by Riyadh radio had earlier criticized the Majlis speaker for reportedly inciting students to attack the embassies.

Israeli-PLO Meeting in Romania

The Palestinian side participating in the 6 November meeting between PLO representatives and members of Israeli leftist groups praised the "courageous stand" of the Israeli "democratic forces and figures" who went to Romania despite "official Israeli pressure" to prevent the meeting, WAKH reported. The agency quoted a PLO statement after the meeting that reaffirmed the PLO's commitment to struggle "by all means" for a just and lasting Mideast peace within the framework of an international conference, adding that the PLO "takes pride in the growing response expressed by the initiatives made by the Israeli progressive forces" in this regard.

However, Israeli peace activists cited by *The Jerusalem Post* said the talks in Costinesti were cut short because of death threats from Arab extremists, disclosing that only 15 Palestinians attended the meeting, which had been scheduled to last 2 days. In Damascus, Sabri al-Banna's "Fatah Revolutionary Council" issued a statement denouncing Romania for hosting the meeting and warning that those who deserted the Palestinian cause will "pay dearly," according to AFP. The Palestine National Salvation Front and Ahmad Jibril's PFLP-GC both denounced the "treasonous" meeting in statements reported by Damascus radio. An Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman cited by Tehran radio likewise viewed the Israeli-PLO talks as "treason," stressing that"meaningless" meetings between "Palestinian conciliatory wings" and "persons affiliated with Zionism" are "tantamount to recognition of the aggressor" and will only strengthen and continue Israel's "oppression" and "enslavement" of the Palestinian people.

Jordanian-Syrian Relations

Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i returned to Amman after a lengthy meeting with President Hafiz al-Asad in Damascus, Amman television reported, noting that Al-rifa'i gave the Syrian leader a message from King Husayn concerning the regional situation and bilateral relations. An editorial on the talks by Amman's *Al-Ra'y* spoke of a "constructive dialogue," asserting that positive consultations between Amman and Damascus are becoming stronger daily and the two capitals believe there is no alternative to joint Arab action to confront the challenges threatening the Arab nation. The prevailing climate of confidence and mutual respect between Jordan and Syria will contribute positively toward preparing "the desired Arab action," *Al-Ra'y added. Sawt Al-Sha'b likewise said that the visit built* "new ground" in Jordanian-Syrian relations and that it underlines Jordan's belief in the need to coordinate with Syria in formulating a joint stand on the requirements for peace and an international conference.

Lebanon

Hostages — Voice of Lebanon radio cited a French television report that the release of two French hostages has "stumbled" due to differences between Syria and Iran. The Syrian prime minister told Paris radio that Syria welcomes coordination to help secure the release of hostages in Lebanon, adding that Syria is thinking of "cooperation not only with France, but with any country which is trying truly and seriously to cooperate with us."

Amal-Palestinian Clashes — At least three people were killed by further shelling in the Burj al-Barajinah area of southern Beirut, according to Beirut radio.

PDRY

A YSP Central Committee communique broadcast by Aden radio 5 November welcomed the high turnout in the recent Supreme Council elections, stressing that candidates' meetings with electors were characterized by "serious and frank" discussions in which citizens called for measures to combat abuses and corrupt practices by state institutions. The electors also demanded an improvement in provision for water and other facilities, the communique said, adding that the authorities must speed up the search for solutions to such problems. Citizens' observations about the weakness of the Supreme Council's ties with the people underscore the need for regular contacts between deputies and electors, the communique stated.

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Najibullah Comments on October Revolution

LD071016 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0500 GMT 7 Nov 86

[Kabul, November 6, BAKHTAR: The national democratic April revolution is an inalienable process of the world revolution which has begun since the Great October Revolution. This was stated by Najibullah, general secretary of the PDPZ CC, addressing a grand meeting held here on the occasion of the 69th anniversary celebration of the Great October Socialist Revolution.

General secretary of the PDPA CC added that the victory of October Socialist Revolution has left a (?rich) and decisive effect on the historical destiny of the people of Afghanistan. On the threshold of the victory of October Revolution, Afghanistan was a feudalistic monarchic country, backward in view of social and economic relations and was subject to colonial claims of the British imperialism.

The second Afghan-British war, 1878-1880 resulted in Afghanistan's autonomy. However, it was divested of its participation in international affairs and thus the foreign policy of Afghanistan was conducted through viceroy in British India, Najibullah recalled.

At a time when the U.S. imperialism and the reaction of the region launched the undeclared war against the DRA the sons of the Soviets whose ancestors brought the Great October Revolution to victory rushed to help Afghanistan and displayed in practice the power of proletarian internationalism and international solidarity, Najibbulah pointed out.

The Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, Najibullah continued to say, moves forward an active non-aligned policy which is in the interest of all forces of peace, democracy and socialism. The revolutionary Afghanistan actively participates in the struggle for peace. It has been giving its strong support to the peace initiatives of the Soviet Union, to the statement released by M.S. Gorbachev against nuclear arms race in our planet and against its extension to the outer space.

General secretary of the PDPA CC emphasized that the state of the DRA is striving to solve its differences with the neighbouring countries of Pakistan and Iran through peaceful talks. We expect, he (?said) that such talks would help towards the peaceful solution of the situation around Afghanistan and for the improvement of the condition in the region.

An agreement on the basic aspects of cultural and economic cooperation signed by the governments of the both countries on April 22, 1986, is a manifestation of the new stage of friendship and cooperation between the two countries. This agreement provided the ground for rendering great assistance in the first post-revolution socio-economic development plan of the DRA for the years 1986-1991, said Najibullah.

DRA Leaders Congratulate USSR

LD062231 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 6 Nov 86

[Text] Comrade Najibullah, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee; Comrade Babrak Karmal, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council and Comrade Soltan Ali Keshtmand, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers have sent the following message of congratulation to Moscow on the occasion of the 69th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution, addressed to Comrade Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; Comrade Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and Comrade Nikolay Ivanovich Ryzhkov; chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers:

Comrade Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; Comrade Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and Comrade Nikolay Ivanovich Ryzhkov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers:

Dear comrades, on behalf of the PDPA Central Committee, Revolutionary Council, the Government of the DRA and people of Afghanistan, I present revolutionary greetings and heart-felt congratulation on the occasion of the 69th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution to the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, the Government of the Soviet Union and to the fraternal people of the Soviet Union.

The victory of the Great October Socialist Revolution opened a new stage in the history of mankind. The creative experiences of the Soviet country are the source of inspiration for all those people who are struggling for progress and fundamental social transformation and for the wellfare and flourishing of their people.

The comprehensive, great, obvious and practically organized program of the speedy growth and socio-economic reconstruction, discussed in the 27th CPSU Congress, safeguards the invaluable financial and moral life of the Soviet Union in the time of peace; and reveals with more perfection the possibilities and superiority of a socialist society. The fruitful cooperation and friendship between Afghanistan and Soviet people, which have been tested for many years, are an obvious example of the implementation of the principles of equality of rights, respect for territorial integrity and noninterference in each others internal affairs, in international relationships, which were declared by the Great October Revolution.

The DRA, again expresses its strong support for the Soviet Union's peace-loving foreign policy and the new, great and comprehensive initiatives discussed by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev in Reykjavik. The return of six regiments from the Soviet limited military contingents from the DRA to the Soviet Union is an obvious and clear confirmation of the true readiness of the Soviet Union and our country for a political solution to the

situation around Afghanistan and for the rapid normalization of the regional situation.

The PDPA, the DRA Government, and all the people of Afghanistan express their gratitude and profound respect to the fraternal people of the Soviet Union for the revolutionary solidarity and very valuable internationalist assistance in the defense and consolidation of national independence; and in the social, economic and cultural progress of our country. Our people are decisively ready to gain victory in the struggle to build a new, progressive and democratic society. Our people, as in the past, will safeguard and [word indistinct] the traditional and fraternal friendship and all-round cooperation with their great neighbor, the Soviet Union.

On this glorious day, the common celebration of all the progressive forces of the world, we wish great success, from the bottom of our heart to you esteemed comrades and all the Soviet proud people, in the communist (?initiatives) in the struggle for the blossoming the sacred gains of the Great October Revolution, in the establishment of international peace and security.

[signed]

Najibullah, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee

Babrak Karmal, chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council.

Soltan Ali Keshtmand, chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers.

Politburo Marks Revolution Day

LD062313 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 6 Nov 86

[Excerpt] Comrade Najibullah, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, today took part in a glorious meeting held in the headquarters of the Soviet Union's limited contingent on the occasion of 69th anniversary of the victory of the Great October Socialist Revolution; Najibullah presented DRA medals and badges for heroism to personnel of the limited contingent of the Soviet Union.

Accompanied by a number of the members of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo, Comrade Najibullah went to the headquarters of the Soviet Union's limited contingent where he was welcomed by Comrade Lieutenant General Nazar Mohammad, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and minister of defense; Comrade Major General Gholam Faruq Yaqubi, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and minister of state security; Comrade Pavel Petrovich Mozhayev, ambassador extraordinary of the USSR in Afghanistan; and a number of the generals of the DRA armed Forces and of the Soviet Union's limited contingent. [passage omitted]

USSR Embassy Hosts Banquet

LD062341 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 6 Nov 86

[Text] Comrade Najibullah, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, attended a glorious banquet this evening to commemorate the occasion of the 69th anniversary of Great October Socialist Revolution. The banquet was hosted by the Embassy of the Soviet Union in Kabul.

This banquet was also attended by a number of members of the Politburo and secretaries of the PDPA Central Committee, members of the Revolutionary Council Presidium members of the DRA Council of Ministers, Armed Forces generals, heads of social organizations, party and state high-ranking officials, members of High Council for Ulema, and religious leaders of the DRA and ambassadors and charge d'affaires of foreign countries in Kabul.

Keshtmand Returns, Met at Airport by Ziray

LD062026 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 6 Nov 86

[Text] Comrade Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers, who led a DRA delegation to Romania to take part in the 42d session of the CEMA in Bucharest, returned home today.

Comrade Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand and his accompanying delegation were welcomed at Kabul Airport by Comrades Saleh Mohammad Ziray, member of the Politburo and secretary of the PDPA Central Committee; Mohammad Aslam Watanjar, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and communications minister; Brigadier General Mohammad Rafi', member of the Politburo and deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers; Mir Sahib Karwal, candidate member of the Politburo and secretary of the PDPA Central Committee; Lieutenant General Nazar Mohammad, candidate member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and minister of national defense; Major General Ghoiam Faruq Yaqubi, candidate member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and minister of state security; deputy chairmen and members of the Council of Ministers; P.P. Mozhayev, USSR ambassador extraordianry and plenipotentiary to the DRA; Vaclav Kouba, CSSR ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the DRA, and (A. Petrov), economic counselor of the USSR Embassy in Afghanistan.

According to another report Comrade Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers, who led a DRA delegation to Bucharest to take part in the 42d session of CEMA, met yesterday in the Presidential Palace, with Nicolae Ceausescu, president of the Socialist Republic of Romania.

At this meeting, which took place in a friendly and understanding atmosphere, views were exchanged on relations between the two countires and a number of international issues.

Comrade Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the PDPA Central

Committee Politburo and chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers, met yesterday in Bucharest with Ilie Verdet, member of the secretariat of the Romanian Communist Party. At this meeting, which took place in a friendly and understanding atmosphere, talks and discussions were held on consoiidation of the friendly relations between the DRA and the Socialist Republic of Romania and the extension of commercial relations between the two countries.

According to another report Comrade Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers, met yesterday in Bucharest with Sodnom, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Mongolian People's Republic. At this meeting there has a talk and an exchange of views on the consolidation and broadening of friendly relations between Afghanistan and Mongolia.

Gandhi Warns Against Pakistani 'Misadventure'
BK061254 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1230 GMT 6 Nov 86

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, has warned Pakistan against launching any misadventure against India. If Islamabad goes for it, it will learn a lesson which will be more [as heard] better and stronger than it had learned three times in the past, he said. Addressing a public meeting jointly organized by the National Conference Farooq and the Congress-I in Srinagar today, Mr Gandhi said India was attacked in 1947, 1965, and 1971 with the aim of breaking and weakening it. But every time we gave a befitting reply. It is our experience that whenever the country had internal problems it diverted its attention to us. Today, a situation like this has arisen in that country and we must keep our eyes and ears open and be in a state of readiness.

Mr Gandhi said the accord between the Congress-I and the National Conference has shown a way of uniting nationalist forces so that no power can beat the country. The accord will create a new atmosphere for speedier progress of the state, he said.

Earlier addressing the meeting, Dr Farooq Abdullah described the Congress-I and National Conference accord as significant.

Comment on Reports of Pakistan's Nuclear Arms
BK061427 Delhi General Overseas Service in English
1340 GMT 6 Nov 86

[Commentary by "Defense Commentator" R. Raina]

[Text] The prestigious American newspaper, *The Washington Post*, has disclosed that Pakistan has tested the nuclear bomb. It said that tests were conducted between 18 and 21 September. The report acquires high credibility because it has been filed by Bob Woodward, the man who exposed the Watergate scandal and more recently, the Reagan administration's disinformation program about Libya. Woodward has quoted a high U.S. source as declaring that Pakistan now is only two screwdriver turns from having a fully assembled nuclear bomb. A U.S. intelligence report suggests that Pakistan's nuclear program has reached a stage where a bomb can be put together in over a week's time. *The Washington Post*'s disclosures only confirm that Pakistan has been for years trying to manufacture a nuclear bomb and that it had perfected the technique for its explosion and the delivery system.

Pakistan has been denying these reports, although its denial did not carry any conviction because of the evidence available. India has consistently been drawing attention to Pakistan's preparation and warning the world of its consequences.

The question is, why has the United States been publicly supporting Pakistan's untenable position? Not only that, the U.S. has continued and indeed enhanced its military aid to Pakistan, although U.S. law prohibits such aid. The rationale for the Reagan administration's embrace of Pakistan in the face of a continued nuclear program it deplores is Pakistan's willingness to make itself a funnel for covert U.S. assistance to the Afghan guerrillas and Pakistan's willingness to permit U.S. electronic intelligence facilities which can eavesdrop on both the Soviet Union and Southeast Asia.

According to Woodward's dispatch in *The Washington Post*, Pakistan's role in these two areas predisposes the Reagan administration to give a low priority to opposing Pakistan from obtaining a nuclear bomb. Woodward quotes a member of the U.S. Government as declaring the Reagan administration would not come down on Pakistan if we found a bomb in Zia's basement. In the process, the Reagan administration has been misleading public opinion at home and abroad about the entire development. For some years now Reagan administration officials have told the U.S. Congress that by approving a large military aid package for Pakistan, they are helping to reassure Pakistan about its defense worries and, thus, reduce its needs to reach for the nuclear option.

As recently as a week back, President Reagan sent his annual personal certification to Congress that Pakistan currently does not possess a nuclear explosive device.

It is very clear that it is yet another and even more blatant case of the United States' disinformation campaign. In President Reagan's message the words have been chosen carefully to make it vague enough for different interpretations. This is borne out by reports from Washington which, quoting nuclear experts, say that Pakistan had already built a crude type of bomb which it has divided into four or five sub-assemblies that can be put together at very short notice. By keeping the sub-assemblies separate, the Zia government is meeting the technical requirement that it does not possess the bomb.

Notwithstanding this subterfuge, Pakistan's possession of a nuclear bomb is now a fact and it has very grave implications for this part of the region and, indeed, for the whole world. The U.S. Government seems to be following more or less the same policies as it did once in Korea and then in Vietnam. It saturated South Korea and South Vietnam with the latest weaponry and propped up dictatorship in order to, what it called, contain China's communism. The disastrous result which the U.S. policies had for the people of these countries and the U.S. itself are too well-known to be recounted here.

The Reagan administration is doing exactly the same. It is building a strong alliance with Pakistan, an alliance based on the supply of the latest weapon systems. It is also going to supply Pakistan the advanced warning and control suveillance, AWACS, planes to Pakistan. These would be accompanied by the stationing of U.S. military personnel in that country. In addition, Pakistan now has also the bomb.

All these factors taken together show that the United States has taken every possible step to create a highly explosive situation in the Indian subcontinent. India, as Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi said last week, will have to reconsider its various defense options and postures in view of these developments.

Junejo Warns of Severity Against Karachi Rioters

BK061121 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1000 GMT 6 Nov 86

[Text] Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo has said that the government will be strict in dealing with the law and order situation in Karachi so as to protect the citizens. Addressing a meeting of elected representatives in Karachi this morning, the prime minister said he has directed the Sind government to take immediate steps whenever and wherever there is a threat to the law and order situation. In addition to this, raids should be carried out to seize illegal arms. The prime minister said he has asked the Sind government to take stern action against those who are acting against the country's integrity and stability. He said we have given enough time to these people to refrain from antinational activities, and it is time now to expose these elements and take severe steps against them. He expressed satisfaction over the improved law and order situation and proposed the setting up of committees involving senators and members of the federal and provincial assemblies in all disturbance-affected areas to promote law and order and the spirit of integrity among the people.

Editorial Calls for Solidarity With Syria

BK070701 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 28 Oct 86 p 4

[Editorial: "Plot against Syria?"]

[Text] Britain's latest diplomatic offensive against Syria is a crude attempt to escalate confrontation with a frontline anti-Zionist nation. The haste with which the United States has recalled its ambassador from Damascus indicates that it is not merely an act of solidarity with Britain. It confirms the suspicion that there is something fishy about the whole episode. The charge that Syria was behind the attempt to blow up the Israeli El Al airliner by a Jordanian national does not seem to be the real cause of the Thatcher government's sudden decision to close down its Embassy in Damascus.

Britain and the United States may like to prove to the world that they are the champions of the crusade against 'international terrorism', but their hypocrisy and duality in condoning the Zionist adventures leaves no room for hoodwinking public opinion. The Iranian Prime Minister has rightly said that the affair looks like a plot against Syria. The U.S. designs in the region are no secret. The frontline anti-Zionist states are an irritant which have to be dealt with. Libya was the first victim and the Reagan administration, in utter disregard of decency and morality, has already made several attempts to browbeat it with military might. It will not be surprising if Syria is the next target.

All the conspiracies hatched so far in the Western capitals to break the anti-Zionist resistance have failed, the Palestinians have not given up their struggle, the Lebanese militants have become a nightmare for the Israeli occupation forces and the frontline nations have not fallen prey to the so-called Middle East peace plan. If the Americans are contemplating action against Syria, this is not going to help them accomplish their cherished desire of making all Arabs subservient to the Zionist entity. In any case it may lead to an explosive situation. The Arab States must rise to the occasion, and respond to Syria's call for support. They should follow the Iranian lead which has unequivocally expressed its solidarity with Syria in its hour of need.

SRI LANKA

LTTE: Government Position 'Totally Unacceptable'

BK061401 (Clandestine) Voice of Tamil Eelam in English 1036 GMT 6 Nov 86

[Text] And now a special announcement: There are no clear indications yet as to what the outcome has been of the meeting between the leaders of the freedom fighters' group and the Tamil Nadu chief minister, M.G. Ramachandran. The groups gave their first written response to the Sri Lankan Government's proposals to Ramachandran. Sources here in Madras said immediately after the meeting that the group had rejected the proposals. This was followed by a statement by the Indian high commission in Colombo quoted by Sri Lankan state newspapers and television. It said that the group had not rejected the proposals outright but that they had said that the proposals were not enough. Indian High Commissioner Dixit met Jayewardene, flew to Delhi and then met Jayewardene again. Jayewardene is reported to have told him that if the freedom fighters were not willing to negotiate, then you would have to take other steps. This is the only [word indistinct] we want.

The group met Ramachandran and handed over three statements. The statements did not actually contain anything different from what the group has already been saying. They have never actually agreed to a negotiated settlement. Unofficially PLOTE [People's Liberation Organization of Tamil Eelam] and EPRLF [Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front] have said that such a thing may be possible but only if they think the government of Jayewardene is sincere. The Liberation Tigers have not even gone as far as that. Their position has always been that the Sri Lankan Government's proposals are totally unacceptable. It is these two different positions. Therefore, that have been set out in the letters.

Delhi has said that the groups have not gone into details and has asked for further clarification. It is just a way of buying time. Delhi knows that if it does reject the proposals outright then things will become very difficult for the Indian central government as well as for Jayewardene and the TULF. Delhi will have to take some kind of action. It will have to start putting pressure on the groups to accept the proposals or some kind of negotiated settlement. Otherwise the situation in Sri Lanka and international opinion will suffer.

On the other hand, if the Gandhi government takes the extreme step of sending the leaders of the liberation groups back to Tamil Eelam, then it will lose control over them. So it cannot do this either. (?With tensions) in Tamil Nadu building up, it cannot keep the freedom fighters in India forever, nor can they allow the struggle for Tamil Eelam to go on forever. And finally, Delhi cannot accept the idea of a state of Tamil Eelam.

For the Sri Lankan Government the choice is simpler. It is very unlikely that Jayewardene will be able to offer more than he has already done. So, if there is a rejection of the proposals, there will probably be an all out war. Jayewardene has actually said this not once, buy many times.

The Sri Lankan Government is psychologically prepared for such a move, even if the Sri Lankan people are not. The TULF has no choices left. It can only hope that the negotiations will work. Even if a peaceful solution is worked out, it is very unlikely that they will have a role to play in the affairs of Tamil Eelam at the north and east.

We come then to the freedom fighters. Their choices are the same as the Sri Lankan Government's — temporary peace or an all out effort to fight for Tamil Eelam. For PLOTE and EPRLF the time has obviously come to negotiate. They are weakened by recent events and they know that as time goes on the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] will become more and more powerful. An end to the conflict now will probably give them some chance of emerging as political forces.

But to the LTTE the decision is not that easy. On the one hand peace will almost certainly give the LTTE an important position in the political life of the areas which make up Tamil Eelam, but peace will push the ultimate goal — the creation of the state of Tamil Eelam — years away. So it seems that the correct choice before the Tigers is to push for a final battle.

The important issue here is not whether the LTTE or the Sri Lankan Army will win that battle. In the history of world conflict, it has been proved often enough that when guerrilla forces and conventional forces meet, the odds are with the guerrillas. The important question is; what will the battle be for — Jaffna or Tamil Eelam?

Realistically, there cannot be a military solution for either side in the districts of Tricomalee, Batticaloa, Mullaitivu and Vavuniya. the mixed population, the nature of the land, and human settlements there make sure that a war cannot succeed. A war in these areas must go on for 20 years or more without one side or another gaining full territorial control.

Jaffna is a different matter and will be within the control of the freedom fighters in a matter of days. The central difference lies in a vital factor — the support of the martyrs. In Jaffna most of the people are with the struggle. In other areas this is not the case. However, an independent state of Jaffna won by military strength will have little future in the world of today.

We must be practical in our approach to the struggle for the socialist systems of government. It was not the suffering of the people of Jaffna alone that made it a human struggle for Tamil Eelam, but the sufferings of all Tamils of Eelam and the lead of the Sri Lankan martyrs as well. The freedom fighters have not fought for so long to create a state that they will once more make our people slaves. We stand for [words indistinct] and both India and Sri Lanka at the same time. Without the rich farm Land of the [word indistinct] and the fishing ground of the east, without the recognition of at least the socialist nations of the world and the assistance of the international community there is no way in which the state of Tamil Eelam will survive.

Therefore, we repeat what we have said before. If this struggle for Tamil Eelam is to be effective, it must go through a change. It must become a struggle of the people and not just a struggle for the people. To do this we have to start building the founda-

tions of popular revolution. While the Communist Party of Tamil Eelam is committed to doing that, the present conditions make that very difficult. We call on the masses to consider well who their leaders should be. We call on the leaders to put the needs of the martyrs first at all times and not to be distracted by selfish dreams of power. There is no mean[illegible]g to the word liberation if it is not complete. It is not something that can be achieved simply and in a short time. Our struggle is still young. Let us take time to build strongly and well on what we have already achieved.

Government Raid on Separatist Bases Kills Three
BK030645 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English
0635 GMT 3 Nov 86

[Text] Colombo, Nov 3 (LANKA PUWATH) — Sri Lankan Government troops raided two separatist terrorists bases at Kadiravoli, the Media Centre in Colombo told LANKA PUWATH today. In the ensuing shoot out three terrorists belonging to the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) were killed.

They were identified as Kadirathamby Ganesh, Thambipillai Sivananda Sunderam, and Ramalingam Uruthrakumar. Troops on separate patrols in the same area captured four terrorists — Smukundan Suppiah Guru, Sinnathambi Kanagaratnam and Kadiragaman Manoranjan belonging to the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) and A. Ravindrakumar of the Eelam Revolutionary Organisation of Students (EROS).

Jayewardene Ready For Further Talks With Tamils
BK041644 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 4 Nov 86

[Text] President Jayewardene of Sri Lanka has reiterated his keenness to find a peaceful solution to the ethnic problem in the island. Speaking to the Indian commissioner, Mr Dixit, who called on him yesterday, Mr Jayewardene said he is willing to examine any further suggestions to improve the latest peace package offered by him. He also expressed his readiness to have further discussions with the Tamils in this direction.

Our Colombo correspondent says that Mr Dixit, who returned to Colombo after consultations in New Delhi and with the representatives of the Tamil Nadu Government in Madras, told the Sri Lankan president that reports in a section of the media about the Tamil militants rejecting the peace proposals is not quite correct. The militants have given a written response in which they have made suggestions on how the proposals can be improved, he said.

Tamil Radio Mourns Death of Muttur Commander
BK061127 (Clandestine) Voice of Tamil Eelam in English
1035 GMT 6 Nov 86

[Text] The Communist Party of Tamil Eelam announces with regreat the death of Ganesh, area commander for Muttur, who died valiantly [words indistinct]. We, along with the people of Tamil Eelam, mourn his death.

Majlis Speaker: 'No Responsibility' for Hostages

LD071255 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 7 Nov 86

[Text] The Friday prayers' religious-political ceremonies were held throughout the country today. Tehran's citizens, too, by their presence in Tehran University and the surrounding thoroughfares, observed today the Friday prayers under the imamate of Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani.

In his second Friday prayers sermon, Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani, referring to the march of the students following the imam's line on occupying the den of espionage which was coupled with smashing U.S. strength worldwide, said: In the past, the United States imagined that by severing its relations with Iran, Iranian liberals would come to power, thereby paving the way for a return by the United States. U.S. policymakers have never wanted to lose Iran and will never dream of doing so. Nevertheless, the United States and the Western world have suffered great losses thanks to their hostility toward the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The imam's representative to the Supreme Defense Council, referring to the remarkable progress made by the self-sufficiency jihads in the armed forces, in the military industries and universities and particularly the rapid progress by Iran's missile industries, said:

If we had relations with the United States, it would be impossible for us to make all that progress in the military industries, particularly in the missile industry and the mass production of spare parts needed by the military industries. In view of reduced hard currency receipts from oil, it is no easy matter to secure the needs of our population of 48 million, carry out agro-industrial plans, implement electrification, water piping and gas transmission schemes in the country's cities and villages, accept more than 100,000 students to the country's universities and higher institutes of learning, create the required educational climate and secure educational facilities such as schools, teachers, and universities for the increasing population.

The administration of such a country, thanks to the people's independence, will, and presence is indicative of our genuine victory in cutting ourselves off from the world powers during a wartime situation. Were the conditions of Western culture to prevail in this country, the response to such problems and difficulties would be impossible.

Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, referring to U.S. attempts to establish relations with Iran, then said: The United States is using every channel to beg the Islamic Republic of Iran to agree to establishing a dialogue. To this end, the United States wishes to use the issue of the hostages held in Lebanon as a pretext for atoning for its past mistakes. The United States does not act directly. Instead, it surreptitiously cups its hand around its mouth. This is because it wishes to reach the Islamic Republic of Iran secretly. This demonstrates our definite victory and U.S. defeat!

The United States has accepted that Iran is invincibly standing on its own two feet. Therefore, the United States was obviously pursuing an important goal if it took the risk of illegally dispatching high-ranking officials to Iran without first receiving our permission.

Referring to the rumor connected with the purchase of arms by Iran from Israel, which is an old and decrepit weapon used several times by the enemies against the Islamic Republic of Iran, and also to the rumor linking U.S. hostages in Lebanon with Iranian arms purchases from abroad, Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin said:

Most arms needs are being provided from within the country. We purchase the spare parts needed for U.S.-manufactured aircraft from world brokers and we will never trample underfoot our principles in order to purchase arms from Israel. Indeed, our primary war is with Israel and as long as the United States backs Israel, we will consider the United States as the arch Satan. We will never be friendly with a country that financially supports Israel so that it it may perpetrate all its crimes in Lebanon and occupied Palestine. Just as the imam has graciously commanded that as long as the United States is not chastised, we will not establish relations with it. This declaration by the imam of the Islamic nation has clarified our foreign policy course. Grand Ayatollah Montazeri also elucidated this issue in his recent speech.

In connection with the U.S. hostages in Lebanon, Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani said: We have proved that we have no responsibility whatsoever in this connection. In view of all the crimes perpetrated by the United States, Israel and others, what could the wronged people of Lebanon do if not take hostages? We believe the Lebanese people's movement to be just. You should leave the Lebanese people alone and then they will do nothing to you!

Continuing his second sermon, in connection with the severing of U.S.-Syrian relations, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani said: The issue of the onslaught on Syria is the issue of the day and a perennial issue of the Islamic front in regard to Israel. The United States cut off relations with Syria and Britain, too, withdrew its ambassador from Syria [sentence as heard]. We hereby declare to the world, particularly the Muslim people of the Arab countries, that the only path of victory is that chosen by Islamic Iran. Along this very path, world arrogance will be facing defeat. The Syrian nation has on its side the history of Lebanon as it sees how the Lebanese people have brought the superpowers to their knees!

Arms Transfer Via Israel Called 'Pack of Lies'

LD071245 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 7 Nov 86

[Text] Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani, speaker of the Majlis, spoke on the illegal trip of McFarlane and the delegation accompanying him to Tehran. This trip has created a vast political and propaganda disgrace for the United States. It demonstrated that they are helpless vis-a-vis the revolutionary will of the people of Iran. After the Majlis speaker's revelations, the Western mass media, by publishing reports that are a pack of lies, have indicated that Israeli ports were used to transfer arms to Iran. In this way,they have tried to cover up Washington's

despondent efforts to compensate for its r[illegible] via the Islamic Revolution.

According to the report of the Central N[illegible]ganda in this connection has been largely con[illegible]do of the occupying regime, the BBC, and so[illegible]plica-tions. These reports have quoted the D[illegible]mun as saying that Danish ships were used to t[illegible]ported carrying this propaganda, the BBC ex[illegible]Danish that the Danish Parliament has ratified[illegible]gions. ships from transporting arms and weap[illegible]he fact There are relevant circumstances to o[illegible]General that when the Islamic Republic of Ir[illegible]ark was Assembly to expel Israel from the Unit[illegible] of this consistently the first country to ask proposal and called for its rejection.

Denies Encouraging
LD070909 Tehran IRNA in English 7 Nov 86

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 7, IRNA — [illegible]r Hojjat Ol-eslam Akhbar Hashemi-Rafs[illegible]y denied statements of a Saudi Official alleg[illegible]Rafsanjani had encouraged students to hold a [illegible]ront of the Saudi and Kuwaiti Embassies in T[illegible]arking the take over of the U.S. den of espior[illegible]s students. Addressing the Tehran Friday pra[illegible]e described the allegation printed in Saudi p[illegible]ounded. He said that contrary to claims of [illegible]d urged the students not to hold a march in [illegible]e and Kuwait Embassies and instead gather in [illegible]building. He described such attributions as a[illegible]

Anti-Rafsanjani Demonstra[illegible]iran
TA061934 (Clandestine) Voice[illegible]f Iran in Persian 1630 GMT 6 Nov 8

[Text] Reports reaching the V[illegible]n of Iran from Tehran indicate that despite[illegible]Rafsanjani and other officials of the Islamic [illegible]rrest of a large number of people who might[illegible]sturbances and demonstrations following th[illegible]vember by the speaker of the Islamic Ma[illegible]t that he had negotiated with the America[illegible]did take place in Tehran against Rafsanjani [illegible]marks. No report is available yet on the circu[illegible]emonstrations.

Removal of Saddam, Ba[illegible]al of War
PM061631 Tehran KEYH[illegible]Oct 86, p 2

[Editorial: "The View o[illegible]am' — From Ideas to Reality"]

[Text] The Islamic Repu[illegible]with regard to the imposed war, which has [illegible]ed in Iran's propos-als for ending the con[illegible]d indict the aggres-sor: In other words, t[illegible] of Saddam and the criminal leadership of the Ba'th Party from the Iraqi political arena.

This request and demand of Iran's was at one time regarded as a childish dream in political circles. Even now, disbelievers put forward a thousand reasons why it is impossible and say that conditions are not ripe for such an event. But published facts indicate that even the West has now come to believe that Saddam was defeated a long time ago. They now believe that Saddam's removal and his replacement by a "coalition government" or else a "coup to safeguard Iraq's national unity" is the least they can hope for to prevent any further damage and loss.

Pointing to Saddam and his Ba'th Party as the real instigators of the aggression and the crimes associated with it indicates upcoming dangers for the West — especially since the Islamic Republic has shown its power to realize its goals. How their clever and devious politicians are forced to try to curb the wave of Iranian victories in the war.

At first the West believed that Saddam's fate was linked not only to the question of Iraq's territorial integrity but also to "the security of other Arab regimes in the region." This is why the West saw it as its duty to give its all-out economic, political, military, psychological, and propaganda support to Saddam.

Saddam in turn reinforced this belief in an effort to safeguard his own future. In this regard, he even embarked on some actions in various Arab countries, which caused him to lose face among these same Arab leaders.

But the Islamic Republic of Iran, through an active diplomacy, has shown that Saddam's fate has nothing to do with Iraq's territorial integrity, because Iran itself wishes to safeguard Iraq's territorial integrity. Second, the fear of the Islamic revolution in the region's Arab countries is the result of tricks by imperialists and Zionists rather than of any actions or statements by Iran in this connection. It is also the result of negative responses and the acceptance of blame by the leaders of these same nations.

It is due to these same Iranian positions that the West and its Arab supporters in the region are trying to make another effort to bring an end to the war. This is because Iran's continued victories have greatly endangered their future strategic interests. Now the West is hearing from the Iranian Supreme Defense Council spokesman that, "even if an American regime other than Saddam and his Ba'th Party takes power in Iraq, we will have nothing to do with Iraq's future, and we will demand only that we are paid compensation."

Undoubtedly this position has caused the West and Saddam's Arab supporters to lessen some of their economic and military aid to Iraq, in order to lessen the damage caused by cooperating with the Iraqi regime.

Of course, the reality of the situation is that the removal of Saddam and the Ba'th Party would at least mean a victory for the Islamic Republic of Iran and would in any case identify Iran as the clear victor. Second, the shock waves of even this minimal victory would at least raise the issue of exporting the Islamic Movement's ideals. This issue has already arisen in some coun-

tries in the region. These are the questions that affect the West's strategy with regard to the war and that will guide them in trying to turn the future course of events the way they want.

In other words, the West has hitherto followed a strategy of "ending the war without a clear victor," but now it has found out that, keeping in mind the recent Iranian military victories and the trend of our warriors' successes, it cannot get away from the trap of the war's fate without giving Iran at least some bonus points.

The same belief in ending the war in a way that would have no positive or provocative effect with regard to the exportation of the revolution or the growth of liberation movements in the area makes up the main axis of their strategy.

So they will try to prepare conditions in the region in such a way that any forthcoming development in the region's politics safeguards their vital interests in the best possible way.

In this connection the Islamic Republic of Iran's position will be especially important and sensitive. Because it is now clear to all that the future of everything in Iran depends on the manner in which the war is ended and that the future fate of the revolution is tied to this issue. On the other hand it is also clear that the "pulse of the war" and the "combat initiative" are also in the Islamic Republic's hands. Despite all the damage and all the losses and casualties, the Islamic Republic, thank God, is in a steadfast and superior position. With the help of its warriors' sacrifice it will determine the fate of the war.

If the West is trying to drown Iran's victorious trend in a cloud of tricky diplomacy, and if it is trying to pull the fate of the war away from the battlefields to the negotiating table, political awareness and reliance on God and on the people can combine in struggle against this devilish effort. And the peoples' awareness should not be underestimated.

The West, especially the United States, is trying to merge the plans for an Iraq without Saddam with plans to "control the wave of Islamic revolution" which is lurking in the background, right behind a victory over Saddam, in order to achieve its own evil goals. But it looks as if the Iranian people's determination will render their tricks and plots certain failures.

The preparations to mobilize 500 battalions alongside the combat-ready Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Armed Forces are capable in themselves of achieving victories much more important than those in Mehran and Al-Faw. These, together with the joint operations carried out in northern Iraq with the cooperation and coordination of the powerful Kurds, have not only added to Saddam's fears but have also forced him to stage bombing raids on defenseless civilian and industrial areas in Iran. They have also created a new and serious danger for the West.

A continuation of this strategy could put more pressure on the West and on Saddam's supporters. It could also help the Islamic Republic continue its victorious trend, to reach a sensible end to a war which is a determining factor for the future of the revolution and Islamic ideology.

GCC Summit Conference Focuses on Gulf Shipping

LD061434 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1106 GMT 6 Nov 86

[Unattributed commentary entitled: "The Conclusion of the GCC Summit's Work"]

[Text] The GCC Summit conference ended its work yesterday. The conference, which began its work on Saturday in Abu Dhabi, capital of the UAE, was the seventh meeting of the heads of that council since its inception. The members of the GCC, which was established 5 years ago, consist of the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain, and Oman. The Abu Dhabi conference began with the six member-states facing various regional and international problems. Among the regional problems one could mention the clash between two council members, Bahrain and Qatar, over the ownership of a small archipelago and the island of Fasht al-Dibal. According to reports received following the conclusion of the final session of the GCC Summit, a separate meeting was held between the Amirs of Bahrain and Qatar together with the Saudi king yesterday. Nevertheless, since last year when this issue was raised in the news media, the two sides have not yet reached a final solution.

Among other problems raised by the GCC Summit in Abu Dhabi were the economic conditions of the member-states in the light of recent developments of the world oil market and OPEC resolutions. It is said that the member-states of the GCC possess half of the world's oil resources and that Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the UAE and Qatar alone produce one-third of OPEC oil. This is at a time when it has not been clarified whether a change will take place in the oil policy of Saudi Arabia or of the council after the ousting of Zaki Yamani, former Saudi oil minister.

Military and security cooperation was also among other things discussed during the Abu Dhabi conference. The final statement referred to military cooperation between the members and the joint defense force, which was set up last year and named Peninsula Shield.

The problem of international terrorism was also reflected in the final statement of the conference and the GCC heads confined themselves merely to expressions of regret for the crisis in Syrian-British relations, emphasizing that they condemned terrorism in all its forms. Support for the PLO, as the sole spokesman of the Palestine people, or the endorsement of the unity, independence, and territorial integrity of Lebanon took secondary importance compared to that of Persian Gulf shipping.

In the final statement of the 7th GCC Summit in Abu Dhabi, the members called on Iran to accept the UN Security Council resolutions on the Iran-Iraq war and freedom of navigation in the Persian Gulf. In the statement the heads of the six Persian Gulf states blatantly expressed their gratitude for the positions adopted by the fraternal Government of Iraq vis-a-vis what they called peace efforts.

Following the victory of the Islamic revolution of Iran and shortly after the beginning of the imposed war, the Cooperation Council was set up with U.S. cooperation and consultation. Since the beginning of the war, its unstinting support for the Iraqi regime has robbed itself of any credibility regarding any impartial mediation. The heads of the six states are fully aware that the insecurity besetting Persian Gulf shipping and attacks on neutral installations and shipping fundamentally lies at the doorstep of the Iraqi regime. The Islamic Republic, the country with the longest maritime border on the Persian Gulf, has repeatedly proclaimed to these states and the world at large it cannot neglect its strategy in the Persian Gulf within the context of security for all or for none. Moreover, contrary to the claims made by the members of the Cooperation Council, it has now been confirmed on the international level that the Islamic Republic of Iran under no circumstances desires an escalation of the war; on the contrary, it is the Iraqi regime which by its attacks on neutral shipping or on neutral harbor installations, attempts to extend the scope of the war and to embroil others in the imposed war in order to avoid suffering blows alone.

The air raid launched by aircraft of the Iraqi regime on a UAE oil platform some time ago; the abortive air raid on Kuwaiti oil installations, the shooting down of an aircraft by Kuwaiti anti-aircraft defenses; and finally, the buzzing and threatening of the aircraft carrying the amir of Kuwait's envoy to Tehran were among the latest steps taken by the Iraqi regime in its escalation of the war.

On the other hand, the six member-states of the Persian GCC, instead of adopting a sensible or at least a neutral position in the war, have unfortunately placed their military-economic installations and political and propaganda assistance at the disposal of the Iraqi regime.

We are fully confident of our future in the war and of our final victory, but should conditions continue to proceed as at present, it would be these very member-states of the Cooperation Council who, with each passing day, would increasingly entangle their destiny with Saddam's sinister fate. Could the Kuwaiti Government really want to end the war when, either through intimidation or voluntarily, it is placing its facilities at the disposal of the warmongering, expansionist Iraqi regime?

Some time ago two captured Iraqi pilots revealed how they had used the facilities provided by the Kuwaiti Government for mounting their raids on Islam's combatants or on our country's economic installations; the recent letter to the UN secretary general from Mr Raja'i-Khorasani, our country's permanent representative to the United Nations, falls within this very context.

At any rate, it behooves the heads of states of the Persian GCC henceforth, instead of using ambiguous phrases in their statement, to be really concerned with exposing the roots of aggression in this war and the region and to try to point the finger at the aggressor, specifying the manner of his punishment and taking fundamental and practical steps for concluding the war. The Islamic Republic of Iran has always announced its readiness to cooperate within this context.

Trend Toward Islamic Revolution in Egypt Claimed

NC061547 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0430 GMT 6 Nov 86

[Commentary by the Central News Unit Research group: "Bells of Toll in Egypt"]

[Excerpts] The uprising of Egypt's Muslim people in Asyut entered its 7th day today. [1-minute break in reception]

News agencies, quoting Asyut residents, have reported that the Egyptian police, armed with machineguns, are on full alert and are patrolling the city. Moreover, students of Cairo's Al-Azhar University have organized demonstrations and held a meeting in support of the Asyut Muslims' uprising. [passage omitted]

After the victory of the Islamic revolution in Iran, Egypt's society took on a new look. Scrutiny of Egyptian society today reveals that the Islamic movement has widely infiltrated all popular ranks and that the mosques and universities are serving in a coordinated way as the wellsprings of popular movements. The fear felt by the regime derives from the fact that the trend toward Islam is not limited to a specific stratum or group, and that, more dangerous still, it has widely infiltrated the armed forces, to the extent that, rather than simply being influenced by popular movements or joining the ranks of the people, the armed forces are in the vanguard of popular movements in opposition to the regime. The revolutionary execution of Al-Sadat by Khalid Islambuli, the action in which seven Zionists were killed in the Sinai desert by heroic soldier Sulayman Khatir, and extensive demonstrations among the enlisted ranks are clear examples of this.

The existence of these conditions in Egypt's society is of special importance. After the Camp David agreement was signed, Egypt became, as stipulated by U.S. officials, the foundation of efforts to secure U.S. and Israeli objectives in the region. Therefore, any instability in the Egyptian regime means that the very underpinning of all of the plots hatched for so many years by the United States and Israel in the region is being shaken; hence the special attention and sensitivity with which the United States follows developments in Egypt. The true danger that threatens the United States is that the Muslim people of Egypt may carry out an Islamic revolution in that country, in which case both the Zionist regime and vital U.S. interests in the region will be destroyed.

Following the revolutionary execution of Anwar al-Sadat, the United States brough Mubarak's regime to power by forcing demagogic adjustments in domestic and regional policies. After coming to power, Mubarak released many political prisoners detained by Al-Sadat's regime, arrested the latter's brother on charges of corruption, and implemented various steps under the guise of creating an open political atmosphere. However, later incidents and the growing strength of the Islamic movements defeated the effects of this careful creation.

Many observers believe that the United States will now construct a new scenario by selecting elements of the same regime to replace Mubarak — people who can do a better job of guaranteeing U.S. and Israeli interests in the region. It is said that one of the people under consideration for the top role is Egyptian Defense Minister 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah. For some time now he has been trying, with actions that have been whitewashed with an Islamic brush, to gain popularity among the Armed Forces.

Following the Egyptian Armed Forces' uprising, *The Washington Post* wrote the following: 'Abd al-Halim abu Ghazalah may be able to form a base of support and gain power in Egypt.

A British newspaper pointed out that Abu Ghazalah has the support of the U.S. Embassy, the Israelis, and Egyptian technocrats, and that he is trying to force Husni Mubarak to resign. Western observers, however, believe that this scenario, too, will certainly fail, in view of the hatred [1-second break in reception] and their lack of trust in the regime that rules Egypt.

The long history of Islamic struggles in Egypt, the vigilance of that country's Muslim people, and, above all, the experience and example of the Islamic revolution in Iran are sure signs that such scenarios will be unable to weaken the stormy trend toward revolution in Egypt.

PLO-Israeli Meeting in Bucharest 'Meaningless'

LD062351 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 6 Nov 86

[Text] In connection with a meeting between PLO officials and a Zionist delegation in Bucharest, our country's Foreign Ministry spokesman stated:

Following fiascos suffered by previous Zionist and imperialist plots to involve the Palestinian nation in compromises and following the resolute will shown by the Palestinian Muslims to struggle against the (?satanic) occupiers until the final victory, we are now witnessing another treacherous plan to promote the course of capitulation and compromise. This has been brought up at the time of a visit by the Zionist delegation to Romania at the invitation of the writer's society of that country, and billed as an official meeting with the PLO officials. (?Although this news item) has not been confirmed by the Zionist regime, it is evident that this plan, too, is aligned with the general objectives of Zionism and imperialism for neutralizing Palestinian struggles and the realization of the course of capitulation.

Given the heightened struggles by the Muslim Palestinian nation in the occupied territories, this action cannot be regarded as anything but treason against the struggles and ideals of this nation.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman added: The Muslim people of Palestine are well aware that the Zionist regime is exerting the harshest repressions and pressures on them. The Zionists are repeatedly subjecting residential Muslim quarters of southern Lebanon to bombing raids. In effect, they are expelling Muslim residents from their homes in the occupied territories under the pretext of extending the Jewish settlements. Therefore, any meeting and discussion on behalf of Palestinian conciliatory wings with persons affiliated with Zionism, even if carried out under deception, is meaningless and will result in nothing but the strengthening of the Zionist regime's oppression and continuation of enslavement of the Muslim and struggling nation of Palestine. It is also tantamount to recognition of the aggressor.

Beirut Embassy Denounces Lebanese Camp War

LD061208 Tehran IRNA in English 1130 GMT 6 Nov 86

[Text] Beirut, Nov. 6, IRNA — The Iranian Embassy in Beirut in a statement Wednesday denounced war in Lebanese camps and stressed that it was only to the benefit of the Zionist regime and in line with policies of Iraq's Saddam Husayn, Egypt's Mubarak and Jordan's Husayn. The statement stressed the necessity of safeguarding the coastal line between Beirut and Sidon and maintaining security of transportation of Muslim Mujahidin to Southern Lebanon.

Calling for settlement of crisis at Al-Rashidiyah camp, the statement said that people should be informed of conspiracies of 'Arafat's wing which are aimed at sowing discord among Muslims. The statement called on the inhabitants of southern Lebanon not to be deceived by 'Arafat and his allies who have resorted to religion.

It also called on Palestinians and groups opposing 'Arafat's subservient policies to take a clear stand and continue their campaign against the Zionist enemy by ostracising 'Arafat's advocates. The Islamic Republic of Iran, added the statement, has placed great hope in Lebanese and Palestinian Mujahidin and will try to eliminate sedition and find a final solution to the problem.

It added that Iran strives for preservation of interests of Muslims throughout the world especially in Jabal 'Amal, southern Lebanon, which has been inspired by Islamic revolution and continues fighting against the Zionist enemy. In conclusion, the statement praised Lebanese ulema for their efforts to stop camp war and called on them to intensify their endeavours to create unity among Muslims.

Plan, Budget Minister Reports Census Data

LD061619 Tehran IRNA in English 1607 GMT 6 Nov 86

[Text] Tehran, Nov 6, IRNA — Iran's total population stands at 48,181,463 an increase of 14.5 million compared to the last census held a decade ago, disclosed Ma'sud Roghani Zanjani, the minister of plan and budget Thursday. Announcing the final results of the first post-revolution public and housing census held last month, Zanjani said the annual increase has been around 1,750,000 (roughly Kuwaiti population).

Zanjani noted that the annual growth rate of the population has exceeded 3.57 percent during the past ten years, which is more than double the average population growth rate in the world which stands at 1.67 percent. Iran's population growth rate is also more than any other Islamic country. The population of the

capital Tehran is 5,770,000, less than the predicted level, Zanjani pointed out.

The minister also said that some 9,605,078 families live throughout the country and according to the relevant statistics, an average Iranian family includes about five members. The number of students have increased remarkably and are around 10 million, he said, adding that some 50 percent of the population is under 15 years which shows the youthfullness of the population.

On the density of population, Zanjani said that currently it stands at 29 persons per sq. km while ten years ago, it was 20 persons per sq. km. The minister further said that the literacy rate has increased by 82 percent compared to 1976 and the total number of literate people (over six years old) exceeded 23,300,000 which is quite progressive. He added that some 62 percent of the over-six-year-old are literate. Some 22 percent of the population are now working, the minister noted.

The immigrants including Afghani and Iraqi refugees number around about 2,600,000 the minister remarked and pointed out that once this figure is substracted from the total population, the growth rate will be less than 3.57.